





The Glamorous, Glamorous


I recently met a rock star at Kinko's. The rock star wasn't there signing autographs, he was working as the shift supervisor. He was a member of a "hair metal" band from the eighties that, to his and my dismay, ended with the trend in the early nineties. He had to live after his music career and, though this anecdote is entertaining, it tends to typify what labor market economists call glamorous jobs: unlikely and short-lived.

Any and every goal or dream needs to be intelligently approached. Research the necessary skills, training and education needed for a job. Understand the fierce competition and have a backup plan.

If you want to play professional football right out of high school, chances are it will not happen. You can improve your chances by playing college football, although college football isn't just about football. In order to play for a university team, players must be pursuing a degree and maintain a minimum grade point average. A large reason for this is so players will not fully vest all of their effort into football to be left empty-handed after they can no longer play. According to

the National Football League Players Association the average career of an NFL player is three and a half seasons. If your aspirations are to play for the NFL and you actually end up making it, it is likely that your career will be extremely short.

This should be taken into account when planning and attaining your goals. Individuals may want to explore other jobs in the industry such as coaches, scouts, or referees. The same is true for the periphery occupations in the film, fashion and music industries.

For all the rock star aspirants out there, just make sure you can cover up your tattoos with a collared shirt because not everyone can be Davey Havok but everyone can work hard enough to become an accountant. Even if your dream doesn't work out, there are worse things in life; you could end up as an economist. 

For more information about these and other occupations go to: <http://jobs.utah.gov/jsp/wi/utalmis/gotoOccinfo.do>

Not everyone can be a rock star, but everyone can work
hard enough to pursue a good career